

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claim 28 has been canceled.

Thus, claims 1-8 and 16-27 are currently pending in this application.

Applicants hereby request further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 28 has been deleted, thus rendering this rejection moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 7-8, and 16-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goda, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,132,140 (hereinafter “*Goda*”) in view of Faur, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,613,697 (hereinafter “*Faur*”) and Liang, et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0173170 (hereinafter “*Liang*”). Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Goda* taken with *Faur* and *Liang* as applied to claims 1-3, 7-8, and 16-27 and further in view of Zhao, et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0118064 (hereinafter “*Zhao*”). Claim 2-8 and 16-27 depend from claim 1. Thus, the pending claims stand or fall on the application of the cited references to independent claim 1. As noted by the United States Supreme Court in *Graham v. John Deere Co. of Kansas City*, an obviousness determination begins with a finding that “the prior art as a whole in one form or another contains all” the elements of the claimed invention. See *Graham v. John Deere Co. of Kansas City*, 383 U.S. 1, 22 (U.S. 1966).

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references in combination do not contain every limitation set forth in the pending claims, and therefore do not render as obvious the instant claims.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite:

A method for depositing an inorganic material from a reactive solution onto a substrate, comprising:
chemically treating said substrate to activate growth of said inorganic material;
immersing said substrate into said reactive solution wherein the reactive solution is in a first container;
using a monitoring process to determine when said reactive solution becomes depleted to form a depleted composition;
transferring the depleted composition from the first container to a second container, wherein the second container is in fluid communication with the first container;
regenerating the depleted composition to form a regenerated reactive solution; and
transferring the regenerated reactive solution to the first container to allow for continuous growth of said inorganic material onto said substrate, wherein the monitoring process comprises pH measurements, spectrographic analysis or both.

See supra, emphasis added. Support for this amendment can be found at least in part in paragraphs [0018] to [0023] of the published instant application. Applicants' claim recites the limitation of *transferring the depleted composition from the first container to a second container wherein the second container is in fluid communication with the first container*. The cited references are silent as to the Applicants' claimed limitation and thus the cited references do not render obvious the pending claims. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims.

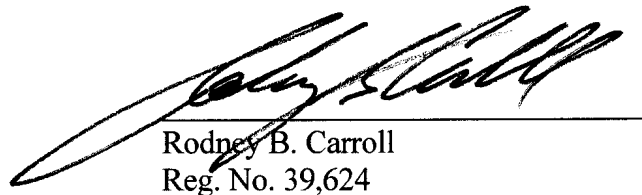
CONCLUSION

Consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested by Applicants. No new matter is introduced by way of the amendment. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the Office Action dated July 23, 2009 has been fully addressed. If any fee is due as a result of the filing of this paper, please appropriately charge such fee to Deposit Account Number 50-1515 of Conley Rose, P.C., Texas. If a petition for extension of time is necessary in order for this paper to be deemed timely filed, please consider this a petition therefore.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the resolution of any issue or expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

Date: 10-22-09


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